CLAIMS

I/We claim:

[c1] 1. An apparatus for coupling with a vehicle having a Bluetooth-enabled hands-free car kit and for coupling with a wireless phone, comprising:

a charge cord having a first end and a second end;

a cigarette lighter adapter located at the first end of the charge cord, the cigarette lighter adapter being adapted to couple with a DC power source in the vehicle, wherein the cigarette lighter adapter is operably secured to the charge cord;

a phone connector located at the second end of the charge cord, the phone connector being adapted to couple with the wireless phone, wherein the phone connector is operably secured to the charge cord;

a Bluetooth module operably coupled to the charge cord, the Bluetooth module comprising Bluetooth logic substantially compatible with at least one Bluetooth standard to exchange communications signals with the Bluetooth-enabled hands-free car kit;

wherein the Bluetooth module further comprises circuitry including a wireless transceiver and a processor, wherein the circuitry is retained within the Bluetooth module and is configured to wirelessly exchange communication signals with the Bluetooth-enabled hands-free car kit, and wherein further the circuitry is configured to exchange communication signals with the wireless phone;

wherein further the Bluetooth module further comprises a protective shell for enclosing the Bluetooth logic and circuitry; and

wherein further the charge cord is adapted to provide a conduit for power and audio signals throughout at least a portion of its length.

[c2] 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the Bluetooth module is located adjacent or within the cigarette lighter adapter, and wherein further the charge

cord is adapted to provide a conduit for power and audio signals throughout substantially its entire length.

[c3] 3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the Bluetooth module is located adjacent or within the phone connector, and wherein further the charge cord is adapted to provide a conduit for power throughout substantially its entire length.

[c4] 4. An apparatus for coupling with a vehicle having a wireless protocol-enabled device and a power supply and for coupling with a wireless device, comprising:

a charge cord having a first end and a second end;

a vehicle adapter located at the first end of the charge cord, the vehicle adapter being adapted to selectively couple with the power supply in the vehicle, wherein the vehicle adapter is operably secured to the charge cord;

a connector located at the second end of the charge cord, the connector being adapted to couple with the wireless device, wherein the connector is operably secured to the charge cord; and

a wireless protocol module operably connected to the charge cord, the wireless protocol module comprising logic substantially compatible with at least one wireless protocol standard to receive data from the wireless device, and exchange communications signals with the wireless protocol-enabled device.

[c5] 5. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the wireless protocol is Bluetooth, wherein further the wireless protocol module is a Bluetooth module, the Bluetooth module comprising Bluetooth logic substantially compatible with at least one Bluetooth standard to exchange communications signals with the Bluetooth device.

[c6] 6. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the wireless protocol is Bluetooth, wherein further the wireless protocol module is a Bluetooth module, the Bluetooth

module comprising circuitry including a processor, wherein the circuitry is retained within the Bluetooth module and is configured to exchange communication signals between the Bluetooth device and the wireless device.

[c7] 7. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the wireless protocol is Bluetooth, and wherein further the wireless protocol module is a Bluetooth module.

[c8] 8. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the wireless protocol is IEEE 802.11, and wherein further the wireless protocol module is a IEEE 802.11 module.

[c9] 9. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the wireless protocol is IEEE 802.11b, and wherein further the wireless protocol module is a IEEE 802.11b module.

[c10] 10. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the wireless protocol module further comprises a protective shell.

[c11] 11. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the vehicle adapter is a cigarette lighter adapter.

[c12] 12. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the wireless device is a wireless phone.

[c13] 13. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the wireless device is a wireless web access device.

[c14] 14. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the wireless protocol-enabled device is a hands-free car kit.

[c15] 15. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the wireless protocol-enabled device is a navigation system.

[c16] 16. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the wireless protocol-enabled device is an identification system.

[c17] 17. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the wireless protocol-enabled device is an automotive audio system.

[c18] 18. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the wireless protocol module is located adjacent or within the vehicle adapter, and wherein further the charge cord is adapted to provide a conduit for power and audio signals throughout substantially its entire length.

[c19] 19. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the wireless protocol module is located adjacent or within the vehicle adapter, wherein further the charge cord is adapted to provide a conduit for power and audio signals throughout substantially its entire length, and wherein further the charge cord is adapted to provide a conduit for control signals throughout substantially its entire length.

[c20] 20. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the wireless protocol module is located adjacent or within the vehicle adapter.

[c21] 21. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the wireless protocol module is located adjacent or within the connector.

[c22] 22. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the wireless protocol module is located in between the vehicle adapter and the connector, and wherein further wireless protocol module is located within the charge cord.

[c23] 23. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the wireless protocol module is located in between the vehicle adapter and the connector.

[c24] 24. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the wireless device is a wireless phone, and wherein further the connector is a phone power connector.

[c25] 25. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the wireless device is a wireless phone, and wherein further the connector is a phone power and audio connector.

[c26] 26. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the connector is detachable from the charge cord, wherein further the connector is adapted to be connected to a particular set of wireless devices.

[c27] 27. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the wireless device is a wireless phone, and wherein further the wireless phone is a Nokia phone.

[c28] 28. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the wireless device is a wireless phone, and wherein further the wireless phone is a Motorola phone.

[c29] 29. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the wireless device is a wireless phone, and wherein further the wireless phone is an Ericsson phone.

[c30] 30. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the wireless device is a PDA, and wherein the PDA is a Palm PDA.

[c31] 31. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the wireless device is a PDA, and wherein the PDA is a Handspring PDA.

[c32] 32. An apparatus for coupling with a vehicle having a wireless protocol-enabled device and a power supply and for coupling with a wireless device, comprising:

a charge cord having a first end and a second end;

a vehicle adapter located at the first end of the charge cord, the vehicle adapter being adapted to selectively couple with the power supply in the vehicle, wherein the vehicle adapter is operably secured to the charge cord;

wherein the second end is adapted to couple with a connector, the connector being adapted to couple with the wireless device; and

a wireless protocol module operably connected to the charge cord, the wireless protocol module comprising logic substantially compatible with at least one wireless protocol standard to receive data from the

wireless device and to exchange communications signals with the wireless protocol-enabled device.

[c33] 33. The apparatus of claim 32 wherein the wireless protocol is Bluetooth.

[c34] 34. An apparatus for coupling with a vehicle and a wireless phone, comprising:

a charge cord having a first end and a second end;

a cigarette lighter adapter located at the first end of the charge cord, the cigarette lighter adapter being adapted to couple with a power source in the vehicle, wherein the cigarette lighter adapter is operably secured to the charge cord;

a phone connector located at the second end of the charge cord, the phone connector being adapted to couple with the wireless phone, wherein the phone connector is operably secured to the charge cord;

a Bluetooth module operably connected to the charge cord, the Bluetooth module comprising Bluetooth logic substantially compatible with at least one Bluetooth standard to exchange communications signals with an independent Bluetooth device; and

wherein the Bluetooth module further comprises circuitry including a processor, wherein the circuitry is retained within the Bluetooth module and is configured to exchange communication signals between the independent Bluetooth device and the wireless phone.

[c35] 35. An apparatus for coupling with a vehicle having a wireless protocol-enabled device and a power supply and for coupling with a wireless device, comprising:

a cord means for providing a conduit between the vehicle power supply and the wireless device for power;

an coupling means for coupling the cord means with the vehicle power supply;

a connecting means for connecting the cord means with the wireless device;

a transmitting means for transmitting audio information to the wireless protocol-enabled device;

a receiving means for receiving audio information from the wireless protocol-enabled device; and

a communications means for transmitting and receiving audio information to and from the wireless device.

[c36] 36. The apparatus of claim 35 wherein the wireless protocol is Bluetooth, and wherein further the wireless device is a wireless phone.

[c37] 37. A method for coupling a vehicle having a wireless protocol-enabled device and a power supply to a wireless device, the method comprising:

coupling with the vehicle power supply;

connecting with the wireless device;

providing a conduit for power between the vehicle power supply and the wireless device;

transmitting audio information using the wireless protocol to the wireless protocol-enabled device;

receiving audio information using the wireless protocol from the wireless protocol-enabled device; and

communicating the audio information to and from the wireless device.

[c38] 38. The method of claim 37 wherein the wireless protocol is Bluetooth.

[c39] 39. The method of claim 37 further comprising translating the audio information to and from the wireless protocol to a form compatible with the wireless device.

[c40] 40. The method of claim 37 wherein the wireless device is a wireless phone.

[c41] 41. The method of claim 37 wherein the wireless protocol-enabled device is a hands-free car kit.

[c42] 42. The method of claim 37 further comprising wirelessly exchanging signals under a Bluetooth protocol with the wireless protocol-enabled device.

[c43] 43. A method for manufacturing a connection device, comprising:

integrating a wireless protocol module into a charge cord, wherein the charge cord is adapted to deliver electrical power to a wireless device from a vehicle power supply; and

at least partially enclosing the wireless protocol module in a housing.

[c44] 44. An system for coupling with a vehicle having a Bluetooth-enabled hands-free car kit and a power supply and for coupling with a wireless device, comprising:

a hands-free car kit, wherein the hands-free car kit is Bluetooth-enabled, and wherein further the hands-free car kit is adapted to be coupled with a vehicle;

a connection device comprising:

a charge cord having a first end and a second end;

a vehicle adapter located at the first end of the charge cord, the vehicle adapter being adapted to selectively couple with the power supply in the vehicle, wherein the vehicle adapter is operably secured to the charge cord;

a connector located at the second end of the charge cord, the connector being adapted to couple with the wireless device, wherein the connector is operably secured to the charge cord; and

a Bluetooth module operably connected to the charge cord, the Bluetooth protocol module comprising logic substantially compatible with at least one Bluetooth standard to receive data from the wireless device, and exchange communications signals with the Bluetooth-enabled device.